

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Taka-Aki Sato  
U.S. Serial No. : Not Yet Known (Continuation Application  
of PCT/US99/21654, filed 17 September  
1999)  
Filed : Herewith  
For : TREX, A NOVEL GENE OF TRAF-INTERACTING  
EXT GENE FAMILY AND DIAGNOSTIC AND  
THERAPEUTIC USES THEREOF

1185 Avenue Of The Americas  
New York, New York 10036  
March 16, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Box: Patent Application

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO THE ACCOMPANYING CONTINUATION  
APPLICATION FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.53

Applicants request that the following amendment be made in the  
above-identified application:

In the Specification:

On page 1, after the title, please delete the first sentence and  
insert the following new sentence:

--This application is a continuation of PCT International  
Application No. PCT/US99/21654, filed 17 September 1999,  
designating the United States of America, which is a  
continuation-in-part and claims priority of U.S. Serial No.  
09/156,191, filed September 17, 1998, the contents of which  
are hereby incorporated by reference into the present  
application.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 17-19, 23-37, 40-67, 69-89, and 91-97  
without prejudice or disclaimer to applicants' right to pursue  
the subject matter of these claims in a future continuation or  
divisional application.

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REMARKS

This application is a continuation of PCT International Application No. PCT/US99/21654, filed 17 September 1999, designating the United States of America, which is a continuation-in-part and claims priority of U.S. Serial No. 09/156,191, filed September 17, 1998. Accordingly, the parent application, PCT International Application No. PCT/US99/21654, is pending today in the United States of America pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §363, and the subject continuation application is co-pending therewith in fulfillment of the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §120.

By this Preliminary Amendment, applicants have hereinabove amended the specification on page 1 to insert the continuation data. Applicants maintain that the amendments made hereinabove do not raise any issue of new matter. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment.

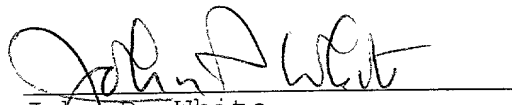
Claims 1-97 were pending in the subject application. By this Amendment applicants have canceled claims 17-19, 23-37, 40-67, 69-89, and 91-97 without prejudice or disclaimer to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a future continuation or divisional application. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-16, 20-22, 38, 39, 68, and 90 will be pending and under examination.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicant's undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

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No fee other than the filing fee of \$462.00, is deemed necessary in connection with this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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